

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Sub B'

1. A plastic container, comprising:

a bottom portion which has a substantially rectangular bottom surface;

a trunk portion which is formed by four planes which rise up vertically from respective sides of the bottom surface and which is substantially rectangular pipe-shaped;

a mouth portion whose surface area of a portion surrounded by a horizontal cross-section is smaller than the surface area of said trunk portion; and

a shoulder portion which is narrowed down from said trunk portion to said mouth portion,

wherein:

the amount of the contents of said plastic container is 800 to 3000 ml;

the average thickness of said trunk portion is 0.2 to 0.7 mm;

the ratio of a length H of said trunk portion to a length L of a diagonal line of a rectangle formed by the outer periphery of a horizontal cross section of said trunk portion (H/L) is 2 to 4; and

each of the vertexes of the rectangle formed by the outer periphery of the horizontal cross-section of said trunk portion forms an arc-shaped configuration so that a radius R of curvature of the vertex is 3 to 20 mm.

2. A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said plastic container is formed from HDPE.

~~3.~~ A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said plastic container is formed from LDPE.

~~4.~~ A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein the average thickness of said bottom portion is 0.8 to 5 mm.

~~5.~~ A plastic container according to claim 2, wherein the average thickness of said bottom portion is 0.8 to 5 mm.

6. A plastic container according to claim ~~3~~, wherein the average thickness of said bottom portion is 0.8 to 5 mm.

~~10.~~ A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said plastic container is molded in accordance with an injection blow molding method.

~~8.~~ A plastic container according to claim ~~4~~, wherein said plastic container is molded in accordance with an injection blow molding method.

~~HJ~~ 9. A plastic container according to claim 5, wherein said plastic container is molded in accordance with an injection blow molding method.

~~HJ~~ 10. A plastic container according to claim 6, wherein said plastic container is molded in accordance with an injection blow molding method.

11. A plastic container according to claim 1, wherein said plastic container is accommodated within a box whose inner surface has a length and width wherein the number of plastic containers that can be tightly packed therein is a multiple of an integer.

~~SUB 37~~ 12. A plastic container for containing photographic processing chemicals, comprising:

a bottom portion which has a substantially rectangular bottom surface;

a trunk portion which is formed by four planes which rise up vertically from respective sides of the bottom surface and which is substantially rectangular pipe-shaped;

a mouth portion whose surface area of a portion surrounded by a horizontal cross section is smaller than the surface area of said trunk portion; and

a shoulder portion which is narrowed down from said trunk portion to said mouth portion,

wherein:

the amount of the contents of said plastic container is 800 to 3000 ml;

the average thickness of said trunk portion is 0.2 to 0.7 mm;

the ratio of a length H of said trunk portion to a length L of a diagonal line of a rectangle formed by the outer periphery of a horizontal cross section of said trunk portion (H/L) is 2 to 4;

each of the vertexes of the rectangle formed by the outer periphery of the horizontal cross section of said trunk portion forms an arc-shaped configuration so that a radius R of curvature of the vertex is 3 to 20 mm; and

a removal opening is provided at the inner periphery of said mouth portion and is closed by a seal member which can be punched by one of a pipe-shaped body and a rod-shaped body.

13. A plastic container, comprising:

a bottom portion which has a substantially rectangular bottom surface;

a trunk portion which is formed by four planes which rise up vertically from respective sides of the bottom surface and which is substantially rectangular pipe-shaped;

a mouth portion whose surface area of a portion surrounded by a horizontal cross section is smaller than the surface area of said trunk portion; and

a shoulder portion which is narrowed down from said trunk portion to said mouth portion,

wherein:

the amount of the contents of said plastic container is 800 to 3000 ml;

the average thickness of said trunk portion is 0.2 to 0.7 mm;

the ratio of a length H of said trunk portion to a length L of a diagonal line of a rectangle formed by the outer periphery of a

horizontal cross section of said trunk portion (H/L) is 2 to 4;

each of the vertexes of the rectangle formed by the outer periphery of the horizontal cross section of said trunk portion forms an arc-shaped configuration so that a radius R of curvature of the vertex is 3 to 20 mm; and

a removal opening is provided at the inner periphery of said mouth portion and is closed by a seal member which can be punched by one of a pipe-shaped body and a rod-shaped body,

a method of supplying photographic processing chemicals which uses said plastic container, comprising the steps of:

holding said container for photographic processing chemicals filled with photographic processing chemicals above a replenishing tank of an automatic processor so that the removal opening of the container faces downwardly; and

opening the seal member of said container for photographic processing chemicals by pressing from below by a pipe-shaped body and opening said removal opening.

15 15

14. A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim 13, further comprising the step of:

washing the interior of said container for photographic processing chemicals by discharging washing water into said container for photographic processing chemicals through a discharge opening formed at said pipe-shaped body.

16 14

15. A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim 13, wherein said removal opening of the plastic container is loaded into the automatic processor in a state in which said removal opening protrudes from an opening portion of a box containing said plastic container.

17

16. A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim 15, wherein a notch is provided at one of the upper edge portion and the lower edge portion of said box other than a longitudinal direction central axis on the front surface in the inserting direction of said plastic container.

18 18

17. A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim 15, wherein a notch is provided at the side edge portion of said box in the inserting direction of said plastic container.

1919

~~18.~~ A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim ~~15~~, wherein said box is formed from one of corrugated cardboard and plastic.

~~20~~ D
~~19.~~ A method of supplying photographic processing chemicals according to claim ~~15~~, wherein said plastic container is molded integrally with said box.

~~Sub B~~ 20.

A plastic container, comprising:
a bottom portion which has a substantially rectangular bottom surface;
a trunk portion which is formed by four planes which rise up vertically from respective sides of the bottom surface and which is substantially rectangular pipe-shaped;
a mouth portion whose surface area of a portion surrounded by a horizontal cross section is smaller than the surface area of said trunk portion; and
a shoulder portion which is narrowed down from said trunk portion to said mouth portion,
wherein:
the amount of the contents of said plastic container is 800 to 3000 ml;
the average thickness of said trunk portion is 0.2 to 0.7 mm;

46

the ratio of a length H of said trunk portion to a length L of a diagonal line of a rectangle formed by the outer periphery of a horizontal cross section of said trunk portion (H/L) is 2 to 4;

each of the vertexes of the rectangle formed by the outer periphery of the horizontal cross section of said trunk portion forms an arc-shaped configuration so that a radius R of curvature of the vertex is 3 to 20 mm; and

a removal opening is provided at the inner periphery of said mouth portion and is closed by a seal member which can be punched by one of a pipe-shaped body and a rod-shaped body,

a device for supplying photographic processing chemicals which supplies photographic processing chemicals to an automatic processor using said container for photographic processing chemicals, comprising:

holding means which holds a container for photographic processing chemicals filled with photographic processing chemicals above a replenishing tank of an automatic processor so that the removal opening of the container faces downwardly;

a pipe-shaped body which is provided at said automatic processor so that said pipe-shaped body is able to be raised and lowered, said pipe-shaped body pressing from below the seal member of said container for photographic processing chemicals held by said holding means and opening said removal opening;

a discharge opening formed at said pipe-shaped body; and

supply means which is provided at said automatic processor
and supplies washing water to said pipe-shaped body and discharges
the washing water through said discharge opening.

add a'